10/500455

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS TO 4 Rec'd PCT/PTO 3 0 JUN 2004

1. (Original) A slider for a sealable storage bag for causing fastener members (F) that include at least one set of a convex strip portion (F1) and a concave strip portion (F2) disposed so as to oppose each other at inner surfaces of an opening (B1) of the sealable storage bag (B) to be fitted together by sliding the slider (1) along the opening (B1) from an outer side of the sealable storage bag (B) to thereby close the opening (B1),

the slider (1) comprising:

two opposing pieces (2) that are engaged with each other at a base end side and arranged with a predetermined interval therebetween at a leading end side, the opposing pieces (2) disposed at the opening (B1) so as to externally cover part of the opening (B1);

at least one push protrusion (3) that pushes the fastener members (F) from the outer side of the sealable storage bag (B) to cause the convex strip portion (F1) and the concave strip portion (F2) to be fitted together so as to protrude from an inner surface (22) of at least one of the opposing pieces (2); and

a tongue-shaped stopper (4) that protrudes from part of the opposing pieces (2) towards a space (2a) between the opposing pieces (2, 2), with a leading end of the stopper (4) positioned further towards the base end side than the push protrusion (3), the stopper (4) having a base portion (41) disposed at the opposing pieces (2) and an expanded portion (42) disposed at the leading end side of the base portion (41), wherein

a width dimension (W42) of the expanded portion (42) that is a dimension along a sliding direction (S) exceeds a width dimension (W41) of the base portion (41), the width dimension (W42) being equal to or less than a width dimension (W2) of the opposing pieces (2), and wherein

a dimension (W3) between one end edge (3a) and the other end edge (3b) of the push protrusion (3) in the sliding direction (S) is equal to or less than the width dimension (W42) of the expanded portion (42).

2. (Original) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to claim 1, wherein

positions of end edges (42b, 42c) of the expanded portion (42) in the sliding direction (S) are respectively present at 1 mm to 3 mm inward from positions of end edges (22a, 22b) of the opposing pieces (2).

3. (Currently Amended) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to claim 1-or 2, wherein

at least one end edge (22a, 22b) of the opposing pieces in the sliding direction is provided with alignment-use notches (6) for positioning when a plurality of sliders (1) are superposed, and wherein

the expanded portion (42) is disposed offset from the alignment-use notches (6) in a direction orthogonal to the sliding direction (S).

4. (Currently Amended) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to any one of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, further comprising:

guide-use protrusions (5) protruding from at least one inner surfaces (22) of the opposing pieces (2), the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed parallel to the sliding direction (S) further towards the leading end side than the push protrusion (3),

the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed at a predetermined distance from the leading end of the opposing pieces (2) towards the base end thereof, to thereby provide a space (2b) defined by the leading end portions of the opposing pieces (2) and the guide-use protrusions (5),

the guide-use protrusions including inclined surfaces (51) disposed at portions towards the inner side from both ends of the guide-use protrusions (5) in the sliding direction (S), the inclined surfaces (51) formed so that the height of the guide-use protrusions (5) gradually becomes higher from the both ends towards the inside; and

a space (2c) defined by both the inclined surfaces (51, 51) of both the guide-use protrusions (5, 5).

5. (Original) A sealable storage bag formed by adhering together two resin sheets, comprising:

fastener members (F) disposed at inner surfaces of an opening (B1) of the sealable storage bag (B), the fastener members (F) including at least one set of a convex strip portion

(F1) and a concave strip portion (F2) that oppose each other, the opening (B1) being closeable by fitting together the convex strip portion (F1) and the concave strip portion (F2);

end seals (B2) disposed at both end portions of the opening (B1), the end seals formed by adhering the convex strip portion (F1) and the concave strip portion (F2) of the fastener members (F) together with the resin sheets; and

continual blocking portions (F3) that block the circulation of air, disposed in predetermined ranges of the fastener members (F) nearest the end seals (B2) with the convex strip portion (F1) and the concave strip portion (F2) remaining fitted together, wherein

for closure of the opening (B1), the slider (1) of claim 1 is attached to the opening (B1) while the expanded portion (42) of the stopper (4) abuts against the end seal (B2) at a more upper side than the fastener members (F) of the sealable storage bag (B), such that the push protrusion (3) disposed at the slider (1) and the continual blocking portion (F3) of the sealable storage bag (B) abut against each other.

6. (Original) The sealable storage bag according to claim 5, wherein

an end edge (B1a) of one resin sheet and an end edge (B1b) of the other resin sheet are disposed so as to be vertically offset at the opening (B1).

7. (New) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to

claim 2, wherein

at least one end edge (22a, 22b) of the opposing pieces in the sliding direction is provided with alignment-use notches (6) for positioning when a plurality of sliders (1) are superposed, and wherein

the expanded portion (42) is disposed offset from the alignment-use notches (6) in a direction orthogonal to the sliding direction (S).

8. (New) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to claim 2, further comprising:

guide-use protrusions (5) protruding from at least one inner surfaces (22) of the opposing pieces (2), the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed parallel to the sliding direction (S) further towards the leading end side than the push protrusion (3),

the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed at a predetermined distance from the leading end of the opposing pieces (2) towards the base end thereof, to thereby provide a space (2b) defined by the leading end portions of the opposing pieces (2) and the guide-use protrusions (5),

the guide-use protrusions including inclined surfaces (51) disposed at portions towards the inner side from both ends of the guide-use protrusions (5) in the sliding direction (S), the inclined surfaces (51) formed so that the height of the guide-use protrusions (5) gradually becomes higher from the both ends towards the inside; and

a space (2c) defined by both the inclined surfaces (51, 51) of both the guide-use protrusions (5, 5).

9. (New) The slider for a sealable storage bag according to claim 3, further comprising:

guide-use protrusions (5) protruding from at least one inner surfaces (22) of the opposing pieces (2), the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed parallel to the sliding direction (S) further towards the leading end side than the push protrusion (3),

the guide-use protrusions (5) disposed at a predetermined distance from the leading end of the opposing pieces (2) towards the base end thereof, to thereby provide a space (2b) defined by the leading end portions of the opposing pieces (2) and the guide-use protrusions (5),

the guide-use protrusions including inclined surfaces (51) disposed at portions towards the inner side from both ends of the guide-use protrusions (5) in the sliding direction (S), the inclined surfaces (51) formed so that the height of the guide-use protrusions (5) gradually becomes higher from the both ends towards the inside; and

a space (2c) defined by both the inclined surfaces (51, 51) of both the quide-use protrusions (5, 5).